



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 10
1200 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, WA 98101

10.11.11

JUN - 2 2004

Reply To
Attn Of: ECL-113

Joseph A. Pakootas, Chairman
The Confederated Tribes of the
Colville Indian Reservation
P.O. Box 150
Nespelem, Washington 99155

Dear Chairman Pakootas:

I am writing to affirm EPA's commitment to consult with the Colville Confederated Tribes and its Tribal Historic Preservation Office regarding EPA's activities at the Upper Columbia River Site in eastern Washington.

As you are aware, EPA is conducting a remedial investigation and feasibility study (RI/FS) at the Upper Columbia River Site to evaluate and answer important questions about the effects and possible risks posed by contamination to human health and the environment.

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (Act) requires EPA to take into account the effects of our undertakings on historic properties and afford the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation a reasonable opportunity to comment on such undertakings. Further, the "Act" requires us to accommodate historic preservation concerns with our own need to move forward on the RI/FS for this site, and EPA must consult with other parties that have an interest in the effects of our planned undertaking on historic properties. EPA takes these requirements very seriously, and will do everything possible to meet the intent and spirit of the Act. Our goal will be to work with you to identify historic properties potentially affected by EPA's activities at the Upper Columbia River Site in eastern Washington, to assess the effects of our planned work and seek ways to avoid, minimize or mitigate any adverse effects on historic properties.

EPA appreciated the opportunity to participate in an introductory meeting with representatives of a number of the effected tribal and federal archaeological/cultural resource offices. My staff found the May 25th meeting, hosted by the National Park Service and the Colville Confederated Tribes (CCT), very productive and informative.

We look forward to working closely with the CCT Tribal Historic Preservation Office as we plan for and conduct field activities associated with the RI/FS at the Upper Columbia River Site. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Tom Eaton of our Washington Operations Office at (360) 753-8086. Or, your staff may wish to contact Cami Grandinetti, Remedial Project Manager, at (206) 553-8696.

Sincerely,

Ronald A. Kreizenbeck
Deputy Regional Administrator

USEPA SF



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cc: Camille Pleasants, CCT Tribal Historic Preservation Officer